

LV. — *Descriptions of Three new Species of Freshwater Fishes from South Africa.* By J. D. F. GILCHRIST, D.Sc., and W. WARDLAW THOMPSON, F.Z.S.

*Labeo seeberi*, sp. n.

Depth of body nearly 5 times in total length, excluding caudal, length of head  $4\frac{1}{2}$  times; width of head nearly  $\frac{3}{5}$  its length; snout prominent, projecting, rounded and slightly pointed, longer than postocular part of head and  $2\frac{1}{10}$  times in length of head; eye lateral, nearer to gill-opening than to point of snout, 7 times in length of head,  $3\frac{1}{5}$  times in interorbital width; width of mouth, with lips, a little more than  $\frac{1}{2}$  length of head; lips well-developed, with transverse plicæ on inner surface, fringed with papillæ; the lower lip with prominent papillæ scattered on it and festooned on lower edge; rostral flap fringed; no barbel visible.

Dorsal IV 9, nearly equidistant from nostrils and base of caudal, upper border emarginate; longest branched ray about  $\frac{1}{5}$  length of head. Anal III 5, does not reach to base of caudal. Pectoral  $\frac{1}{5}$  length of head, does not reach to ventral, which is inserted below 4th branched ray of dorsal. Caudal deeply forked, the lower lobe pointed and longer than upper; caudal peduncle nearly twice as long as deep. Scales 83, lat. tr.  $\frac{20}{50}$ ; 16 rows of scales between lateral line and root of ventral, about 32 rows round caudal peduncle.

Colour (of preserved specimen) dark bluish brown above, light coloured on belly; body covered with minute dark specks.

One specimen, 268 mm. in length, from Olifant's River, Transvaal (*Dr. Seeber*).

*Varicorhinus nasutus*, sp. n.

(Morobe.)

Depth of body  $3\frac{3}{10}$  times in total length excluding caudal, length of head  $4\frac{3}{10}$  times; width of head about  $\frac{2}{3}$  its length. Snout pointed and prominent, shorter than postocular portion of head; eye lateral, 7 times in length of head and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  times in interorbital width; width of mouth  $\frac{4}{9}$  length of head; rostral flap pointed and overlaps symphysis of upper jaw; a double row of papillæ behind premaxillary; two barbels on each side, the lower longer than the upper and  $\frac{1}{5}$  diameter of eye.

Dorsal IV 9, outer border of fin slightly emarginate, no ossified ray, the longest branched ray about  $\frac{9}{10}$  length of head; the anterior rays, from 4th to 6th, have a skinny flap on each side along the greater part of their posterior edge. Anal III 5, similar to dorsal, reaches base of caudal. Pectoral a little more than  $\frac{2}{3}$  length of head and not reaching to ventral, which is inserted below posterior half or middle of dorsal. Caudal forked; depth of caudal peduncle  $1\frac{1}{2}$  times in its length. Scales 30, lateral line very indistinct anteriorly and marked on posterior half of body by small round holes, lat. tr.  $\frac{5}{7}$ ; 3 rows of scales between lateral line and base of ventrals, 12 rows round caudal peduncle. The scales on the body are very large, those below posterior margin of dorsal being the largest and more than twice diameter of eye; the scales on the belly are much smaller; head entirely scaleless.

Colour (of preserved specimen) bluish above, flesh-coloured below.

One specimen, 482 mm. in length, from gorge below Victoria Falls, Zambesi River (*F. W. Sykes*).

*Varicorhinus nelspruitensis*, sp. n.

Body compressed, depth  $3\frac{2}{3}$  to 4 times in total length excluding caudal, length of head  $4\frac{1}{2}$  to  $4\frac{3}{5}$  times, width of head  $\frac{3}{5}$  to  $\frac{2}{3}$  its length; snout prominent, rounded, shorter than postocular portion of head; eye lateral,  $4\frac{2}{3}$  to  $4\frac{4}{5}$  times in length of head and about twice to  $2\frac{2}{5}$  times in interorbital width; width of mouth about  $\frac{1}{2}$  length of head; no barbel; small tubercles on snout; mouth feebly curved.

Dorsal III 8-9, upper edge slightly emarginate, no ossified ray, longest branched ray  $\frac{4}{5}$  to about same length as head. Anal II 5, similar to dorsal, does not reach base of caudal. Pectoral  $\frac{4}{5}$  to about same length as head, does not reach ventral, which is inserted below 2nd branched ray of dorsal. Caudal forked, the lobes pointed; caudal peduncle  $1\frac{4}{5}$  times to twice as long as deep. Scales 34-35, lat. tr.  $\frac{5\frac{1}{2}-6}{6-\frac{6}{4}}$ ;  $2\frac{1}{2}$  rows of scales between lateral line and base of ventral, 14 rows round caudal peduncle.

Colour (of preserved specimens) bluish black, darker above.

Two specimens, 145 mm. and 158 mm. in length respectively, from Nelspruit, Transvaal.